

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 27, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005—06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2257

Introduced by Committee on Business and Professions (Negrete McLeod (Chair), Shirley Horton (Vice Chair), Bass, Frommer, Koretz, Maze, Nation, Tran, Vargas, and Yee)

February 22, 2006

An act to add Section 2919 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to psychologists.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2257, as amended, Committee on Business and Professions. Psychologists: records retention.

Existing law, the Psychology Licensing Law, provides for the licensure and regulation of the practice of psychology. A violation of that law is a crime.

This bill would require a licensed psychologist to retain a patient's *health service* records for a minimum of 7 years from the patient's discharge date, *and would also require a minor patient's health service records to be retained for a minimum of 7 years from the date the patient reaches 18 years of age.* Because a violation of the bill would be a crime, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2919 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:

3 2919. A licensed psychologist shall retain a patient’s *health*
4 *service* records for a minimum of seven years from the patient’s
5 discharge date. *If the patient is a minor, the patient’s health*
6 *service records shall be retained for a minimum of seven years*
7 *from the date the patient reaches 18 years of age.*

8 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
9 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
10 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
11 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
12 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the
13 penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section
14 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a
15 crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the
16 California Constitution.